TURNING BIOMASS INTO BUSINESS

Iowa is already known as a leader in the biofuels industry, thanks in large part to the abundant natural resources available and the support provided by the state to encourage development. Iowa is also a world leader in the production of both corn and soybeans, the principal feedstocks for the biofuels industry. Another great asset – Iowa produces the nation’s second-largest supply of biomass with the ability to harvest 14.4 million dry tons of biomass annually (total cellulosic and crop biomass). Additionally, Iowa can boast one of the most robust industrial biotechnology infrastructures available in the United States.

All of that presents a unique opportunity to advance Iowa’s economy by focusing on the use of biomass as feedstocks for the production of building block chemicals.

On April 6, 2016, the Renewable Chemicals Production Tax Credit program was signed into law. The program, the first-of-its-kind in the nation, addresses the unique opportunity to advance Iowa’s economy by capitalizing on Iowa’s strengths in the bioeconomy.

**RENEWABLE CHEMICAL PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT PROGRAM**

**BY THE NUMBERS**

**IOWA RANKS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>IN CORN PRODUCTION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>IN SOYBEAN PRODUCTION</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**IOWA HAS THE**

**LARGEST SUPPLY OF AVAILABLE BIOMASS 14.4 MILLION DRY TONS PER YEAR**

**IOWA LEADS THE NATION IN ETHANOL PRODUCTION WITH**

**44 FACILITIES PRODUCING 26% OF THE TOTAL U.S. ETHANOL PRODUCTION**

**IOWA RANKS**

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<th>Rank</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>IN BIODIESEL PRODUCERS WITH 11 REFINERIES PRODUCING OVER 23% OF THE TOTAL U.S. BIODIESEL PRODUCTION</td>
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</tbody>
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**LEGEND**

- **●** BIODIESEL FACILITY IN OPERATION
- **▲** ETHANOL FACILITY IN OPERATION
- **▲** ETHANOL FACILITY UNDER CONSTRUCTION
- **■** CELLULOSIC/AND TRADITIONAL ETHANOL FACILITY
- **○** INDUSTRIAL BIOPROCESSING PARKS

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HOW IT WORKS

Many of the industrial facilities around the state currently producing food and fuel products from corn, soybeans and other renewable products also produce certain co-products that can be further processed into higher-value basic chemical compounds. These compounds can be further processed into end-use consumer products such as plastics, textiles, paints or pharmaceuticals. The production of such biochemicals is perhaps the fastest growing segment of the bioscience industry and represents one of Iowa’s best opportunities for development of a high-density industry cluster such as Silicon Valley.

PROGRAM DETAILS

In 2004, the federal Department of Energy studied the potential for high-value chemicals from biomass feedstocks and identified the 30 chemicals that hold the most market potential. This list of high-value renewable chemicals forms the foundation of the program that will be administered by the Iowa Economic Development Authority.

This program aims to incentivize the production of high-value “building block” chemicals based on weight ($0.05 per pound produced) with annual limits of $1 million for startups and $500,000 for established businesses.

Program rules and application process are available at: iowaeconomicdevelopment.com/renewablechem.